

## REMARKS

Applicant requests reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Claims 1-3 and 7-8 are pending in the application, with Claim 1 being independent.

Claims 4-6 have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein. Claim 1 has been amended. No new matter has been added.

The drawings have been objected to. In response to the objection concerning use of the reference character "D," Applicant has herein amended Figure 2 and a corresponding description in the specification. In Figure 2, the lead line for reference numeral "52" has also been corrected. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings are requested.

Applicant notes that Claim 6 is considered to contain allowable subject matter.


Claims 1, 4, and 7 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,088,553 ("Kuwata"). Claims 1-5, 7, and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2002/0168197 A1 ("Kitozaki"). Without conceding the propriety of these rejections, Applicant has amended independent Claim 1 to include the features of allowable Claim 6. Accordingly, Claim 1 is submitted to be patentable over the cited art.

The dependent claims are submitted to be patentable for the same reasons that Claim 1 is patentable, and further due to the additional features that they recite. Individual consideration of each dependent claim is respectfully requested.

Applicant submits that the application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration of the claims and passage to issue of the application at the Examiner's earliest convenience are respectfully requested.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in Washington, D.C. by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to the below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Attachment: Figure 2 Replacement Sheet drawing

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